

## Lottie Moon goal \$84 million



William and Anne Bagby pose for a portrait just before sailing 48 days from Maryland to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in the winter of 1881. They were the first Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil, which now has its own missionaries in 16 countries. During his 56 years in Brazil, Bagby saw the development of 600 churches with 50,000 Baptists. Mrs. Bagby founded a girl's school in Sao Paulo and was the mother of nine children, five of whom became missionaries. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering today supports more than 350 Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil. (FMB) PHOTO By Don Rutledge



Southern Baptist missionaries Bruce and Margaret Oliver teach a song to children in a Sunday School class that meets inside a Baptist community center in Itaporanga, Brazil. The children also get help with homework in the Baptist center that is part of the Living Water Project, a \$3 million Southern Baptist hunger relief project in northeast Brazil. Oliver, director of the project, is a third generation missionary to Brazil. His grandparents, A. B. and May Deter, were missionaries from 1901 to 1940. (FMB) PHOTO By Don Rutledge

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Published Since 1877

## "It takes a tough one to work in Brazil . . ."

By Eric Miller

It took a tough missionary to work in Brazil in 1881. It still does.

Back then, Southern Baptist missionaries faced yellow fever and persecution. Now, they struggle with a sick Brazilian economy and shortfalls in mission budgets.

But year after year, Brazil is among the countries with the highest number of reported baptisms. Also, Brazilian Baptists support their own foreign missionaries — about 100 in 16 countries — and they have about 400 home missionaries.

Brazilian Baptists are organized much like Southern Baptists in the United States. They have national and state conventions, associations, Woman's Missionary Union organizations, Brotherhood, Royal Ambassadors, seminaries, camps, children's homes, bookstores, a radio and television commission, a publishing house, a World Mission Board (since 1907) and a Home Mission Board.

All of this progress came with a price, not only through Lottie Moon Christmas Offering gifts, but through missionary blood, sweat and tears.

Yellow fever took the lives of a few early Southern Baptist missionaries. Later, some died in private airplane crashes and others in ships lost at sea.

Southern Baptist missionary Arthur Beriah Deter sold all of his furniture in 1901 to save the Baptist Publishing House in Rio de Janeiro from being closed by city officials who declared the building unsafe.

Deter's furniture sale paid for moving heavy equipment and a printing press from a decrepit second floor to a ground floor, said retired missionary Edith Deter Oliver, 86, his daughter.

"As a child, I remember sitting on the floor, eating my lunch on an orange crate," Oliver said, looking back at how the family managed without furniture. "Mother made a picnic of it."

It was tough women like Deter's wife, May Scrymgeour Deter, who persevered and contributed to the opening of work in the pioneer days of Southern Baptist work.

Holding a loaded revolver in her lap, May Deter once sat in a rocking chair waiting for a man banging on her front door. The man planned to hurt her and her children as a part of Catholic persecution of Protestants. "The maid was under the bed praying to Virgin Mary, and I was on the bed, hugging my little brother," Oliver recalled. Finally, the man left, and no one was hurt.

Another time, she recalled, her father happened upon a man holding

a dagger in the hallway of the Deter home. Deter, a wrestler in college, grabbed the man and threw him out into the street so hard his face hit the dirt. Deter handed the man his dagger and said, "I didn't come here to be your enemy." Tears on his cheeks, the man said, "I was sent (by the Catholics)."

With Indians attacking passengers on trains, the missionaries in the early days had to travel by riverboat and horseback in some parts of Brazil.

As in the Old West in the United States, "the Colt 45 (revolver) was the law" in places where her father traveled, Oliver said. So, Deter sometimes traveled with a big, strong Brazilian pastor, Pedro Sebastiao Barbosa, who was like a favorite uncle to the Deter family.

BECAUSE WE HAVE  
BEEN GIVEN MUCH



In 1910, Deter rented an old movie theater in a lawless town and announced in the street he would be preaching soon. As a small crowd gathered for the service, he posted Barbosa at the door to keep out trouble-makers. They weren't far into the service when a man tried to ride his horse into the auditorium. Barbosa knocked the man off the horse and sat on his chest, pinning him to the floor until Deter finished preaching.

Deter and his wife were on the mission field from 1901 to 1940, the first of three generations of missionaries in Brazil. The third generation is Bruce and Margaret Oliver, who work in Itaporanga, Brazil. Oliver is director of the Living Water Project, a \$3 million hunger relief project that provides irrigation, agriculture technical assistance and social ministries in a drought-stricken area.

Bruce Oliver was a missionary pilot for 15 years, transporting sick and dying Brazilians from rural areas to hospitals and flying over areas where his father and grandfather had once trailed on muleback.

The first Deter worked with William and Anne Bagby, the first Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil. The Bagbys sailed for 48 days from

Baltimore to Rio de Janeiro and arrived March 4, 1881. During his 56 years as a missionary, Bagby saw the development of 600 churches with 50,000 Baptists. Anne Bagby founded a girl's school in Sao Paulo and was the mother of nine children, five of whom became missionaries.

Bagby and Deter helped plan the first Brazilian Baptist Convention, which was held in 1907. At the convention, May Deter sang a solo, "The Holy City," accompanied on an organ by Solomon Ginsburg, a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil who adapted and translated 106 hymns into Portuguese.

Ginsburg, a preacher, poet, printer and editor, also gained notoriety when he fought through court and in the press against the Catholics for religious freedom. He won in both arenas.

About a year after the Bagbys arrived in Brazil, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board sent a second missionary couple, Zachary and Kate Taylor. Taylor, who published a monthly newspaper, emphasized evangelism. He also traveled some with missionary M.G. "Red" White on mule.

Long travel and hardships were a way of life for missionary Benjamin Oliver, 84, father of Bruce Oliver. The retired missionary had 252 tick bites after riding a horse all day through tall grass. Gunmen affiliated with Catholics once fired on a group he was traveling with, hitting the steering wheel, radiator and a tire of their car and wounding two passengers.

Many missionaries to Brazil were innovative. Consider William W. Enete, who used ventriloquism and some magic in his evangelistic work from the 1920s to the 1960s.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil today are still willing to face challenges to share the gospel. Baptists in Brazil's largest state, Sao Paulo, for example, hope to start 1,000 churches by 1992. This 10-year "Densification Project" is gaining such momentum that it may result in 1,650 churches by 1992, missionary Paul Stouffer said.

Missionary David Campbell, who helps coordinate the project, said it's challenging working in Sao Paulo, a city of 16 million. Not only does it take hours to drive between churches in and around Sao Paulo, but he's been knocked down and robbed on the street three times. He has equipped his car with a burglar alarm system.

Missionaries in Brazil are still a tough breed. Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds today support more than 350 Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil.



# Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

## The Earth:

### Made for man's good Made for God's glory

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him. — Colossians 1:16

We must acknowledge God's ownership of the earth and realize the fact that we have been placed here as stewards of it. We are God's trustees entrusted with caring for his creation.

As such we need to be aware of those elements that tend to destroy the beauty of the earth, and we must involve ourselves in the necessary activities for keeping it beautiful.

With a new anti-litter law and program in place, Mississippi Baptist churches can be encouraged to be directly involved in keeping the state clean. The new program is the result of a law that was passed during the legislative session earlier this year. This law places the responsibility for keeping Mississippi's roadways clean with the state's Highway Department. The Highway Department has established an "Adopt-a-Highway" program that is aimed at encouraging organizations to volunteer to keep specified stretches on highway clean.

One organization already set up that will complement the Highway Department's program is Keep Mississippi Beautiful. The chairman of this group is Louise Godwin of Tupelo, who says she expects the

Mississippi organization to be certified later this year by the national organization, Keep America Beautiful. Earlier this year the Mississippi Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for Keep Mississippi Beautiful to aid it in its efforts.

Mrs. Godwin feels the money will be well spent. She points out that the state is spending \$800,000 annually now to pick up litter; and that, she says, is \$800,000 that could go somewhere else.

She notes that organizations using the methods set up by Keep America Beautiful have seen the amount of litter in their area reduced by from 32 percent to 80 percent.

The idea is that other organizations would enter into the highway adoption program. There plenty of churches in Mississippi to adopt just about every stretch of highway and country lane in the state.

A church could adopt a couple of miles of roadway and take care of it easily. Stretches that should not be ignored are the less-traveled roads, where it seems that the trash dumpers feel they have found the proper place to unload their unwanted material.

It seems strange that those who would go to the trouble of hauling their trash out to some roadside would not take it on to the established dump site. Nevertheless, some of Mississippi's beautiful country roads are marred

by being used as dumping places with continuous stretches of refuse.

Mississippi Baptists could help out in two ways. They could quit dumping trash, which would cut down on the amount. And they could help to pick up what others have left.

This is a program that should have the support of every church in the state. Mississippi is a beautiful state and needs to be kept that way.

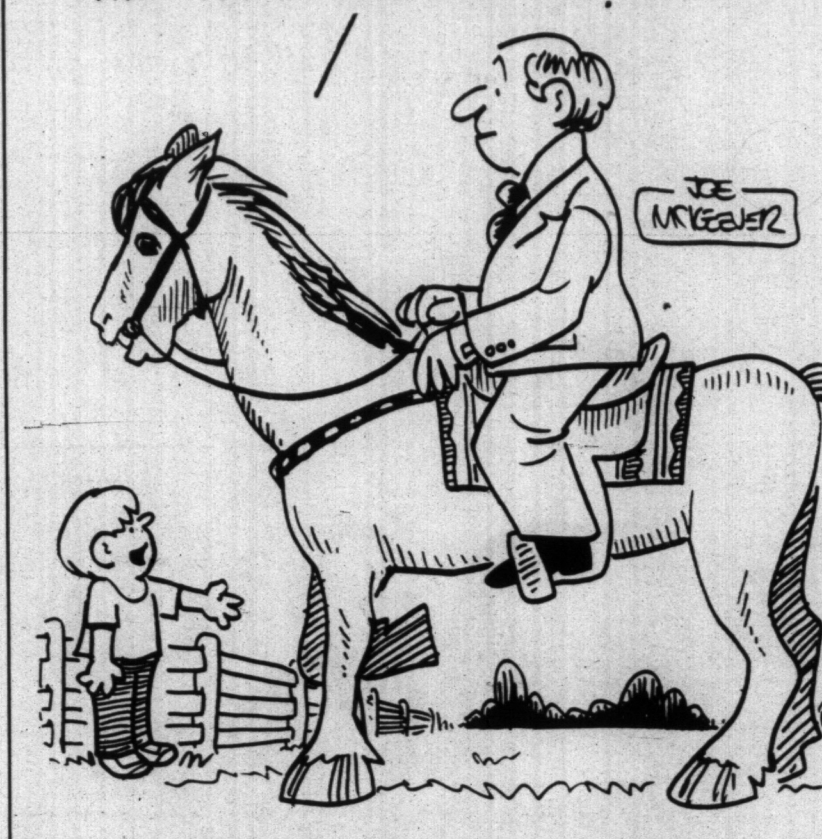
The new law establishes penalties for littering. This should be a deterrent, but more help is needed. Apprehending the litterers is not always easy or possible. Baptists need to be helping take care of the litter that seems to be going to show up regardless of the law.

The law, adopted last winter, establishes a contract with Keep Mississippi Beautiful, sets up the fines structure for littering, and provides that the monies collected from fines will be put back into the litter prevention program to implement it. Keep Mississippi Beautiful will be expected to assist local communities, keep communications going on the problems of littering, establish an achievement awards program, and provide financial assistance.

A statewide litter prevention fund has been created in the state treasury to implement the program.

The Highway Department is expected to put up warning signs along the roadways and install receptacles

"I KNOW WHY YOU NAMED HIM 'STEWARDSHIP'— BECAUSE WITHOUT HIM YOU'D BE GROUNDED!"



for trash. The law notes that the anti-littering provisions pertain to the entire right of way of all roads and highways and the private property of someone else.

Half of the money collected will go into the statewide litter prevention fund and the other half will go to the local litter prevention programs to be matched by state funds.

This is a good bill. It was long in coming, but it's here. It can only be effective, however, as it can be enforced and as organizations get involved in clean up operations. This is where churches can make a tremendous contribution. Churches can adopt stretches of roadway, and organizations within the churches can keep

them clean. GAS, RAs, men's organizations, and youth groups can make this worthy operation effective.

And an added bonus is available. There will be a bit of free publicity in the highway adoption signs that will be placed along the way.

Mrs. Godwin has been involved in anti-littering efforts for 10 years. Others, including the Baptist Record's Irene Martin of the Harpersville area, have been fighting it just as determinedly without hope of making much of a dent. The Baptist Record got involved during the last legislative session.

Hope is a possibility now, and Baptist churches should be involved in keeping Mississippi beautiful.

## Guest opinion . . .

### The will to live

By Eddie King

I sat and listened intently as the pastor search committee shared with me their church's past, present, and future. I was not so much impressed with all this as I was the intensity with which they expressed their love for the Lord and their church. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Griffith, Herbert Miller, Archie Haley, Mrs. Elaine Aldridge, and Mrs. Annie Ruth Martin made up the committee of a cross-section of emotions, backgrounds, ideas, and anxiety; and I sensed a composite interest I had not seen in many such committees I had talked with over my 40 plus years in the ministry.

What made this meeting all the more interesting to me was the very strange circumstances that had led up to this encounter of which I will not try to explain here. It could have come no other way except through the

grace of God and the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Fayette Baptist Church — where was it, what had it done or not done, who were some of the former pastors I could talk to, what would our Mississippi Baptist Convention annuals (to which I would naturally refer) reveal?

I was pastor of a good, growing, responsive church which I loved and they loved us. God had been good to us. We had had 40 years of what we considered a very successful ministry in 11 churches in five states. In some of the smaller churches we had few baptisms but in other churches over 100 within a year.

As diplomatically as I could, I told them we would pray about the situation. The research of the materials I

had available revealed the names of some of the former pastors. Men like James Yates and George Lee and others, good pastors, good men who had done a fine work at Fayette. Leon Emery had served as interim on about three different occasions. I knew these men had laid a good foundation. For the 10 previous years I found the Sunday School had not averaged but about 30 except for one year under the leadership of Paul Pearson, the most recent pastor, and that year's average was 32.

It took a lot of praying on our part and a lot of coaxing by the Holy Spirit to get us to move, but we finally gave in and made our debut in Fayette on the first Sunday of December 1987.

If you ever have a tendency to doubt, don't. I found a few people who had faith that you often talk about but seldom see. It had never crossed their minds to quit and "throw in the towel."

Let's back up a little in time. Southern Baptists had some difficulties getting work established in Fayette around the turn of the century. Slowly progress was made un-

til it reached its peak in the early sixties or there about under the leadership of Brother George Lee. Then a great deal of strife hit the little town; and the results adversely affected the church, but no fault of the church or pastor. Steadily attendance declined into the seventies and eighties.

When I walked in that first Sunday and found 18 in Sunday School, I have never found any greater love and anticipation than I saw and felt in those people. Men and women like Robert and Virginia Griffith; C. E. Ballard; Archie and Garrah Haley; Herbert and Henrietta Miller; Mrs. Ethel Miller; Mrs. Luzon Truly; Mrs. Lillian Ainsworth; Mrs. Hugh Harris; Mrs. Blanche O'Quin; Mrs. Ann Marie Anderson; Mr. Joe Arnold; J. L. and Annie Ruth Martin; Jesse and Roberta Boyte; A. B. and Minnie Lee Duck; Joe and Jackie Pahnka; Robert Phillips; Howard Bond; Mrs. Elaine Aldridge; Cliff, Kermit, and Wilma Grammer; and Charles and Gloria Pope had determined to keep their church alive.

Now I'm a firm believer in "puttin' faith to work. So Mark Miller, the on-

ly young man coming to Sunday School, (who was home for a short time from his work in Texas) and I started a youth class — just the two of us. That class grew and grew and grew and became two classes. Next was a children's class, and another, then the nursery, and a class for young adults — altogether six new classes. Now we are near the 60 mark in attendance and going higher, we believe.

Men, women, and young people began finding Christ as savior. Since December there have been 14 for baptism and 12 additions by transfer of membership. A fine church choir has been started with 16 and 17, and the excellent youth choir has approximately 20.

Tremendous interest and support was given in Vacation Bible School. It had been alternating with our neighboring Methodist Church and averaging about 30. This year we averaged 72 daily.

We've organized a fine youth council that has led in a great summer-camping prayer retreat in the moun-

(Continued on page 4)

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# Convention is in the air

By Tommy Vinson, Chairman,  
Committee on Order of Business, MBC  
Pastor, Colonial Hills, Southaven

When I was a young person growing up in north Mississippi I especially loved the spring and fall. The coming of each new season of the year seemed to stir my heart with anticipation of wonderful new experiences. The beginning of spring filled my mind with thoughts of bats, gloves and baseball. The fall signaled the opening of basketball season, and welcomed us to the county fair. Even to this day I find warm feelings rising in me as these seasonal changes occur.

For 19 years now as a pastor, this same sort of thing happens to me about this time every year. I have always eagerly looked forward to the annual meeting of our state

convention. During the month of October it seems that one of the most frequently heard phrases among pastors and staff people is, "I'll see you at the convention." As a pastor in college my motives for attending so that I could "skip classes" may be legitimately questioned. I hope I have matured over the years.

For most of those attending, convention week is a wonderful time of renewed fellowship and animated conversation. It's also a time of spiritual challenge. More than once I've found myself on my knees back at the motel dealing with something the Lord impressed upon my heart through a message. It is also a time to enlarge our vision of a world that needs our Christ. The business sessions and reports seem to give me sense of being a part of something wonderfully larger than my own ministry.

(Continued on page 4)



Young

Hamilton

Davis

Yancey

## Pastors' Conference speakers announced

A total of six speakers will preach during the Pastors' Conference which precedes the November meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Theme of the conference is "Preaching the Word . . . In Season and out of Season," according to Pastors' Conference vice president Gary Berry, pastor of First Church, McComb.

The Pastors' Conference, an independent organization of pastors which offers a morning and afternoon of preaching and music prior to the first session of the MBC, will take place Nov. 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 that afternoon.

The slate includes four Mississippi pastors and one each from Tennessee and Texas.

The out-of-staters include Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., and Glenn Weekley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hendersonville, Tenn. Young is a native of Laurel, Miss.

The Mississippians include Eddie



Weekley

Brock

Hamilton, John Brock, Rex Yancey, and Randy Davis. Hamilton is pastor of Oak Forest Church, Jackson. Brock is pastor of Ackerman Church, Ackerman. Yancey is pastor of First Church, Quitman. And Davis is pastor of First Church, Vancleave.

Mike Harland, minister of music at First Church, McComb, will lead congregational singing for the meeting. Jay and Martha Richardson, students at New Orleans Seminary and formerly of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, will provide special music in the morning.

The Second Front Page

# The Baptist Record

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## FMB trustees accept Parks' call to respond to crisis

By Robert O'Brien

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustees applauded a challenge from R. Keith Parks for them to lead Southern Baptists from discord that jeopardizes the denomination to "an unswerving progress toward world evangelization."

The Foreign Mission Board president told his audience they have a duty to call Southern Baptists to spiritual renewal and clear up widely held misperceptions that undercut the believability of FMB missionaries, staff and trustees.

Trustees rose in applause as Parks concluded his report to trustees, which Frank Norman, trustee from West Point, Ga., characterized as "a Magna Carta" for the board.

Suspicion and mistrust endanger the future of missions, around which Southern Baptists formed in 1845, and consequently threaten the survival "of the Southern Baptist Convention as we have known it," Parks said.

"I'm fully convinced that our role in playing a significant part in reaching this world for Christ is in jeopardy," he said. "I'm also convinced that we stand on the threshold of the greatest opportunity and could be a significant part in reaching this world for Christ if we're willing to do so."

Trustee Chairman Mark Cortis of Winston-Salem, N.C., named a six-member committee to implement Parks' concerns. He charged the committee with bringing a resolution to the board's December meeting that affirms "to all the Baptist family our personal and corporate commitment to biblical missions, based upon sound theology, cooperative spirit and sacrificial stewardship."

Information from widespread sources indicates trustees are not trusted by many Baptists, who perceive them to be motivated by a political agenda in the SBC's theological strife, rather than by a missions agenda, Parks said.

Trustees need to correct "a general misperception" that many FMB missionaries and staff are theologically unsound and not fully committed to evangelism and sound biblical doctrine, Parks urged. "That distortion is about as far from the truth as you can get. You as a board are in the best position to correct that misperception."

Trustees also need to "affirm missionaries and staff as being theologically and evangelistically sound" and to "assure Southern Baptists that we will continue to channel all qualified Southern Baptist candidates to the field and that no basic change has occurred in that process," he asked.

Many Baptists have the misperception that the board "will no longer appoint qualified representatives from the total spectrum of Southern Baptist life and will begin to reject those who accept the truth of Scripture but do not regularly use the word 'in-

(Continued on page 4)

## CP tops predictions

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptists' 1987-88 combined ministry budget surpassed predictions but fell short of its goal.

The Cooperative Program received \$134,787,542 for conventionwide causes during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, announced Harold C. Bennett,

president and treasurer of the denomination's Executive Committee.

The total is almost \$1.2 million more than convention officials had predicted, Bennett said.

But it is more than \$5 million below

(Continued on page 5)

## Home Mission Board elects two VPs, adopts '89 budget

By Jim Newton

ATLANTA (BP) — Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board elected two new vice presidents, adopted a 1989 budget totaling \$83.2 million and approved a reorganization of the board during their Oct. 12 meeting.

The 1989 budget is an increase of \$4.6 million, or 5.6 percent, over the 1988 budget of \$78.5 million. Income to finance the increase primarily will come from earnings on investments and other income, rather than from the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget or the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions.

Directors also appointed eight missionaries and 35 other mission personnel for service in 17 states.

In a report to the board, personnel committee Chairman Robert L. Latham of Indianapolis said a survey had revealed the majority of person-

nel committee members felt board members should not be involved in the interview and screening process of missionary candidates.

The personnel committee voted to affirm the current process, in which candidates for missionary appointment are interviewed and screened by the staff and confidential files are evaluated by board members.

The study, summarizing results of telephone interviews among the 21-member personnel committee, revealed that a majority of committee members felt their involvement in the screening process would not yield substantive new information, would not be cost-effective, would create difficult logistical problems with scheduling and travel, and would not be perceived as desirable involvement by the committee.

Jim Newton writes for the HMB.

## 333 missionaries sought; budget crucial

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Budget restraints have forced Southern Baptist missionaries overseas to take a look at strategy and, in some cases, reduce the number of requests they are making for new co-workers in the coming year.

Missionaries asked the board to fill 333 new jobs in 1989, about 22 percent fewer than in 1988.

And because the individual Southern Baptist mission fields overseas are continuing to narrow their personnel requests to meet

strategic needs, area directors urged board staff to be even more precise in matching new missionaries' skills with the jobs that need to be filled. Some suggested that the successful missionary of the future would be a self-starter with experience in sharing Jesus Christ person-to-person and starting churches composed of these new believers.

About three-fourths of next year's requests, or 240 units, are for evangelism and church development specialists. Of that group, 179 units are

for church starters. A unit can be either a couple or a single person, depending on how the request is filled.

Other requests include 17 for educators, 42 for health-care workers, eight for media workers, 18 for support people including business specialists, and eight for community development workers.

The top 25 requests, chosen by the board's Global Strategy Group from priority needs identified on the field, include four missionaries to develop

(Continued on page 5)



# Convention is in the air

(Continued from page 3)

On behalf of the Order of Business Committee let me express our hopes and prayers that this year's Mississippi Baptist Convention, Nov. 14-16, at First Baptist Church, Jackson, will also bring ample opportunity for inspiration, fellowship, and an enlarging of vision. We believe the Lord has led us in bringing together speakers who will be challenging and helpful. The God-centered program theme, "To Him Who Is Able" should give focus to each session.

D. L. Lowrie, who recently accepted the position of executive secretary treasurer of the executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, is returning to our state to lead us in our

Bible treasures each session.

Other out of state preachers will share in this year's program. Davis Saunders will represent the Foreign Mission Board and speak on Tuesday evening. He will be followed by Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla. On Tuesday morning Landrum Leavell, president of New Orleans Seminary, will bring the concluding message of our convention. Among the in-state men leading us this year will be Earl Kelly our executive director, who will speak on Monday evening. Jim Futral, our convention president, will deliver the president's address on Tuesday morning. Bobby Perry, associational missionary from the Gulf Coast Association will preach the convention ser-

mon Tuesday afternoon.

Becky Payne, member of the Order of Business Committee, has served as music coordinator this year. You may expect the same quality music to which we have grown accustomed in our convention.

This year, as every year, there are vital decisions to be made, important reports to be received, and challenging messages to be heard. (And who knows — maybe even a revival or two to be booked!) Pastor, let me encourage you to come and bring the full number of messengers your church is allotted.

Serving with Vinson on the Order of Business Committee this year are Hal Buchanan, Dennis Johnsey, Ron Burch, Gary Berry, and Becky Payne.

## FMB trustees accept Parks' call

(Continued from page 3)

rant, or those who have a certain Baptist political position," he said.

Trustees, he said, are the only ones who can clear up that and other misperceptions about themselves, which he said he has tried to correct.

Other misperceptions Parks identified included widespread feeling:

— That trustees are entirely composed of extreme ultraconservatives determined "to purge staff, starting with the president; to purge missionaries and to drastically alter our basic program of foreign missions."

— That trustees will reject ministries to physical needs in favor of only evangelism, and that they will reject the principle of indigenous missions and seek to control all the conventions and institutions abroad.

— That trustees are not fully committed to leading Southern Baptists toward increased giving from individuals, churches and state conventions. An eroding pattern of giving to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering already has begun to undercut foreign missions, he said.

— That trustees "have coerced staff into making decisions or developing

strategy that staff would not have otherwise done."

— That they have engineered "back-room deals ... in which board members, either through intimidation or promise of reward, have gained concessions contrary to the conviction and best missiological judgment of the president or other staff members."

Elaborating on rumors of such deals and threats, Parks said, "No single board member or any group of board members has ever sought to make a deal with me or any staff that I know."

Such conduct "not only is beneath the dignity of this board, but it is totally beyond the range of what I consider to be consistent with Christian integrity and should never even be discussed," he said. "I have not, I will not be a party to such a discussion, much less to such an agreement."

The board could create trust by taking several actions, in addition to affirming the soundness of missionaries and staff and making assurances the FMB will accept all qualified missionary candidates, he added.

These include "a wholehearted, unreserved commitment to the continued implementation of our basic principles of mission work," em-

phasizing that a biblical approach to ministry to physical as well as spiritual needs will continue on the mission field; communicating to overseas Baptists that the board will not exert control over institutions abroad and will continue to work with them as equal partners; and assuring other Great Commission Christians "that we see ourselves as one member of the body of Christ ... and want to enhance what they are doing and be enhanced by what they are doing."

"Someone needs to call us above the controversy, with its misconceptions and its suspicions and distrust," Parks said. "The members of this board hold in your hearts and hands the destiny of the cause of missions from a human standpoint" because of Southern Baptists' history, commitment to missions, understanding of Scripture, and the opportunities in the world today.

Trustees named to the committee to respond at the FMB meeting Dec. 12-14 are John Thomas, chairman, Daphne, Ala.; Kenny Lewis, Brownsville, Texas; Noralee Stephenson, Falls Church, Va.; Carolyn Fitch, Paducah, Ky.; Rod Masteller, Oklahoma City; and John Jackson, Anaheim, Calif.

Robert O'Brien writes for the FMB.

## Resolutions needed now

Any Mississippi Baptist planning to submit a resolution during the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Nov. 14-16, in Jackson, is encouraged to send it in to the office of the executive director prior to the convention.

This early submission will allow the resolutions committee more time to consider the resolutions prior to the convention. However, such submission is not a requirement for consideration.

Send resolutions to Earl Kelly, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

## The will to live

(Continued from page 2)

tains of North Carolina for the guys, a trip to the state youth night in Jackson, and many other local activities. As of this writing, the youth are giving all "senior adults" a cookout. They are also raising money for a new church sound system.

The Lord has provided our material needs but most of all some new enthusiastic and energetic workers.

Now I understand God's will more fully because I found a people with THE WILL TO LIVE.

Eddie King is pastor of Fayette Church, Fayette.

## Disasters find Baptists needing relief money

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Recent disasters in Jamaica and Bangladesh have found Southern Baptists lacking the funds they need to adequately respond, according to R. Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

At the end of August, money available to the board for helping in disasters stood at less than \$100,000. In Jamaica alone, Hurricane Gilbert did an estimated \$2.2 million damage to 180 of the 270 Baptist churches, plus \$273,000 damage to parsonages. This does not count the needs of many Jamaicans whose homes were destroyed or damaged.

During September the board received one gift of \$150,000 and other gifts totaling about \$18,000 designated for Bangladesh. In addition, about \$10,000 has been received for Jamaica and other uses.

Only gifts designated for general relief can be used by the Foreign Mission Board for needs not related to hunger.

## SBC LAS VEGAS

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## Budget, staff still problems for BJC/PAC

By Marv Knox

WASHINGTON (BP) — Money and management again plagued relations between the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and its Southern Baptist delegation during the committee's annual meeting Oct. 3-4.

The Baptist Joint Committee, a Washington-based religious liberty agency, is comprised of nine Baptist denominations in the United States and Canada. The Southern Baptist Convention is represented by its 18-member Public Affairs Committee.

SBC conservatives have faulted the BJC for several years, saying it is too liberal. Most notably, they have criticized it for failing to support organized school prayer and anti-

abortion amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

The tension peaked in October 1987 when PAC members — thwarted in their attempts to evaluate BJC staff and to gain access to staff correspondence and expense accounts — recommended the SBC "dissolve its institutional and financial ties" with the BJC.

The SBC Executive Committee later declined that request, but currently is studying alternate methods of funding the BJC and the PAC.

The PAC also convened Oct. 3 and 4, meeting both before and after the full BJC meeting. Members mentioned the Executive Committee's pending study, but they did not formally

reiterate their request to dissolve ties.

But during the BJC meeting, PAC members disputed the budget, as well as staff policies and actions.

PAC members focused on several concerns with the \$729,772 proposed budget for 1989-90. That budget calls for an increase in the SBC contribution from \$400,000 in the current 1988-89 budget to \$460,000.

"It is very clear that this asking budget expects the Southern Baptist Convention to increase its contribution by \$60,000, when total contributions of the other bodies are less than \$60,000," said Tom Pratt, Southern Baptist pastor from Brighton, Colo. Anticipated contributions of the other

member denominations totals \$59,010.

BJC Executive Director James M. Dunn said several denominations give more per capita to the agency than does the SBC. He also said Southern Baptists "do less than their fair share" of contributing funds that go beyond the local church. Pratt took exception to that remark, saying, "Southern Baptists should not be penalized for being generous beyond their local churches."

PAC members also disputed the BJC's request for \$60,000 more from the SBC, when that convention's proposed operating budget is expected to show zero growth. "This is the asking budget; this is the goal," Dunn said.



# CP tops predictions

(Continued from page 3)

the budget's \$140 million goal, he added.

The \$134.8 million total includes a gain of more than \$4.3 million over the previous year's budget, Bennett said.

However, the increase amounts to a decrease in buying power, since the 3.4 percent gain trailed the current U.S. inflation rate of about 4.1 percent.

Consequently, the just-completed budget marked the first time in seven years that national receipts for the Cooperative Program — as measured in constant dollars that account for inflation — have fallen below the previous year's Cooperative Program gifts, Bennett noted.

The 1987-88 budget supplied \$132 million to support the work of 19 convention-related organizations. The budget also provided \$36,641 to fund the work of the Southern Baptist Peace Committee.

The budget left unfunded \$3,839,900 remaining from the 1986-87 capital needs portion of the budget and the

entire \$6,450,000 budgeted for capital needs in the 1987-88 budget.

The budget also did not pay out any of the \$1.55 million itemized in the second phase of its basic operating budget.

The 1988-89 Cooperative Program

budget, which took effect Oct. 1, is \$145.6 million. That includes more than \$137.6 million for the first-phase basic operating budget, almost \$6.9 million for the capital needs budget and almost \$1.1 million for the second-phase basic operating budget.

## Clarke homecoming to be Nov. 5

Clarke College will hold alumni homecoming day on Saturday, Nov. 5, on campus in Newton. Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a speech by Grady Crowell, director of missions, Clarke Association. Other activities will include a basketball game — Clarke College vs. Holmes Junior College — and presentation of the homecoming court.

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## Jackson singles minister in Florida

Two single adults, Carol Fairley and Lisa Lillard, from First Church, Jackson, traveled to Orlando, Fla., for a week of mission work in cooperation with Central Parkway Church there. Joining them was Alex Lawson, a single minister of music and youth from Bigelow, Ar., who preached during church activities. The three shared music and testimonies and distributed leaflets inviting neighboring children to Backyard Bible Club which they led along with US-2er Ernie Moore. The church pastor is Ovis Fairley, former director of Mississippi Baptists' Parchman Prison Ministry. The 28-member church is meeting at Orlando's Heritage Inn. The hotel recently gave permission for the church to baptize three people in the hotel pool. Land bought for a church site has been paid off by sponsoring church, Pinecastle Baptist.



Harbour

Barry

## Bible preaching workshop set

"Preaching and Worship that Reach People" is the title of a conference set for Dec. 5-6 at First Church, Kosciusko. The program will be a workshop on Bible preaching, focusing on preparation and delivery.



Bryson

Speakers include James Barry, pastoral ministries consultant at the Baptist Sunday School Board; Harold Bryson, preaching professor at New Orleans Seminary; and Brian Harbour, pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock.

Gary Anglin, minister of music at First Church, Pascagoula, will lead the music.

Cost of the meeting is \$10 to cover materials and one meal. The sessions begin at 1:30 Dec. 5, and conclude at 3:15 the next day.

Bryson will lead sessions on preaching from the Gospel of John. Harbour will talk about preparation to preach. And Barry will discuss the centrality of preaching and worship and questions concerning church ordinances.

To register, write Julius Thompson, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, prior to Nov. 28.

## Paul Brand will lead lecture series

Paul Brand, nationally recognized for his orthopaedic surgery and reconstruction of healed leprosy patients, will be the featured speaker at the Spell Lecture Series scheduled at Mississippi College, Oct. 31-Nov. 2. The public is invited.



Brand

The three-day lecture series will get underway on Oct. 31, at 9 a.m. as Brand speaks to the combined classes in the chemistry and biology departments. At 10 a.m. he will address the student body, faculty and staff, and guests in Swor Auditorium of Nelson Hall.

On Tuesday the surgeon will meet with the combined classes in the Department of Religion and Philosophy at 11 a.m. in Province Chapel and then at 6:30 p.m. will be the guest of honor at a dinner on campus. The Spell Lectures will conclude on Wednesday with Brand again conducting the chapel program in Swor Auditorium at 10 a.m., followed by a meeting with the class on World Religions at 11 a.m.

After 19 years in India, Brand assumed duties as Chief of Rehabilitation Branch at the National Hansen's Disease Center, Carville, LA, the only leprosy hospital in the continental United States. He is now retired from that position and currently serves as senior consultant at Gillis W. Long Hansen's Disease Center and as clinical professor of surgery and orthopaedics at Louisiana State University.

## 333 missionaries

(Continued from page 3)

ties to groups of unreached people inaccessible to traditional missionary methods.

Area directors also outlined personnel considerations for the future, told about trends in their areas and heard that the number of new missionaries appointed in 1988 would represent a drop for the third straight year.

Missionaries and home office staff were forced to shave 12 percent off their 1989 operating budgets because of a shortfall in receipts.

"It is ironic," said Harlan Spurgeon, vice president for mission management and personnel. "This is a time when missions opportunity and vision are at their zenith."

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## Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



### Lunch at the top of the world

"I'm hungry" and "I'm thirsty" began to crowd out my other thoughts when the sun passed its noonday mark. It had taken most of the morning to drive to the topmost slope of a Himalayan mountain, and an hour to climb to the summit where we could look down on the king's helicopter pad, and look away toward Mt. Everest. The weather was surprisingly warm up there in the sunshine, on a January day in Nepal.

At the steps near a look-out tower, two Nepali boys who had already suspected my low resistance to their salesmanship, caught up with me for the second time. One was selling brass teapots and the other handcarved wooden flutes. "Now if only I could play a flute!" I muttered as I added one to my armload of paraphernalia: camera, notebook, pocketbook, and sweater. I'd also brought along a bottle of water, but it had spilled when the car rounded a curve.

The ten of us — three Nepali Christians and seven Americans — squeezed back into two small cars, bounced a little way down the mountain, and stopped. Solon, our host in Kathmandu, pointed to a boulder-dotted cliff beside the road above us. "I'd like you to meet the family who lives up there," he said. And then he darted up the face of the cliff like a goat. (Solon is director of "Every Home for Christ" in Nepal. The three baptized believers in this home had been converted to Christianity from Hinduism as a result of a Bible correspondence course and Christian literature which Solon had delivered to them.) In a few minutes, he called, "Come on up!" That was easier said than done for some of us, but we found a trail not quite as steep as the one he had taken. Eventually we huffed and puffed up to the small mud-walled courtyard in front of the house at the lip of the bluff.

The house and other houses on the terraces behind it were made of mud, and roofed with thatch. Two black goats in the yard kept munching the bushes they were eating for lunch, but a large black and white dog came to greet us, along with the man and woman who lived there, and a crowd of children. (At least 50% of Nepal's population is under 21.)

"We had a training conference up here last year, at this house," Solon said. "Practical instruction in God's Word helps new believers press on as they walk, oftentimes alone, against the crowd." (Because of persecution of Christians in Nepal, it is safer to have such a meeting in a home than in a public lodge or sometimes even safer than in a church.)

The family insisted we stay for lunch. They began cooking while we toured the two-room house — one room downstairs and one upstairs, a ladder forming the steps. In the lower room, the wife squatted with eyes red-rimmed from the smoke swirling around her, beside an open fire burning in a tiny stone oven. Her husband squatted beside her, slicing a potato-like vegetable into a boiler on the floor.

Dishes were stacked on a high shelf, but I saw no furniture in the room. Straw was scattered thickly at the base of the ladder (— perhaps for sleeping space?) Upstairs I saw only a cot or two and some large metal canisters which held (I suppose) the family's clothing or whatever other possessions they had.

"Twelve of us stayed here, and in one other house, for the conference last year," Solon recalled. "Goats, dogs, chickens, and mosquitoes also occupied the premises. It rained daily. Conditions were not good. But God was."

**Suppression in Nepal** In Nepal, it is not only against the law to convert from Hinduism to another religion. It is a crime to witness to a Hindu. Converts are often imprisoned. Even so, some villages are completely Christian, and a Nepalese pastor is quoted as saying, "The gospel is spreading like wildfire." 90% of the people who convert do so because someone risked arrest and imprisonment by sharing their faith. Radio and literature have also been effective and influential.

With many smiles and bows, the Nepali couple set the food outside on the floor of the narrow adobe porch. We sat on the porch's edge to eat. They served wheat cakes cooked like pancakes; the vegetable the man had been slicing; and a mixture of cauliflower and broccoli seasoned (hot!) with ginger, curry, and chili peppers. Tea arrived in glasses, so hot I had to wait for mine to cool before I could pick it up. More hot water was available from a brass pot with a long spout. While we ate, we noticed a row of children and women looking down on us from behind a stick fence. "Are they hungry?" one of my American friends asked. "No," was the answer. "They are just happy that you came!"

Never have I enjoyed a meal more, or felt more welcome, anywhere in the world.

Next day in Kathmandu I went to church. A Nepali man walked up to me in the churchyard, folded his hands before his chin in the typical Oriental greeting, bowed, and smiled from ear to ear. "He looks familiar," I thought. Then I realized, "I ate lunch at his house yesterday! However did he get here?"

Every week, someone told me, this man and his family leave home on



A Nepali family, neighbors of those in the story, greet visitors.

Saturday mornings at 5 a.m. (Christians go to church in Nepal on Saturday, because businesses close that day instead of Sunday.) The family walks the 20 miles down the mountain to attend the 10 a.m. service. They stop along the way to wash their faces in a stream or to drink from a cold spring. When they reach the city they usually can hitch a ride to the vicinity of the church.

Why do they make the long, hard journeys? To worship the Living God who saved them from the darkness of Hinduism. And there is no church nearer their village. I know the name of the family and the name of the village, but I won't print them, for fear they might be arrested.

### Gulf Coast plans session for singles leaders

The Single Adult Leadership Training session for area nine will take place at First Church, Gulfport, and be led by J. Clark Hensley, Jackson on Nov. 12, 9 a.m.-noon. The study book "Single Adult Ministry in Your Church" will form the basis of the study. Pastors, single adults, and single adult leaders from churches in Pearl River, Gulf Coast, Greene, George, and Jackson Associations are included in Area IX.

## Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the BAPTIST RECORD. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld. The withholding of names will be at the discretion of the editor.

### "Finest servants"

Editor:  
Thank you for your editorial on the Sunday School Board.

I was very disturbed by the information that there was a request that Grady Cothen and Frank Pollard not be invited to speak at Sunday School Board Conferences again. I have always considered Grady Cothen and Frank Pollard two of our finest servants of the Lord — men of unquestionable ability and integrity. I think it would be good for all of us to know the persons responsible for this request.

Clifton Perkins  
Clinton

My understanding is that it was Robert Tenery, a Sunday School Board trustee and editor of *The Southern Baptist Advocate*, who was responsible for questioning the message of Frank Pollard at a conference at Ridgcrest and Paul Pressler of Houston who initiated the question concerning a message by Grady Cothen at a conference at Glorieta. Of interest is the fact that the reason given for the trustees' making such requests was to keep the Sunday School Board out of politics. Then the trustees invited Paige Patterson to address their gathering. — Editor

### Mississippi "saints"

Editor:

I have read quite often in papers such as the *Baptist Record* and the *Baptist Standard* of the deaths of men and women who were renowned missionaries, past-presidents of the convention, etc. I am writing to advise you of the death of a woman of renown. You won't find her in any missionary directory. She was never president of the BGCT or MBC or SBC. Even though she was active in her church for all her life, the ones who are aware of her death are her church family and her blood relatives.

I can only speak for a local group and say that the contributions of Hazel Ileta Stephenson Bean would fill a page of your paper — even if they were mine only. Yes, I am her grandson. I am also a pastor in Texas. I owe it to a God-fearing grandmother (and a God-fearing grandfather, Nephus Robert Bean), who always lifted up Christ and instilled within me the realities of "whose I am." She always made sure I was in God's house at Mt. Vernon in Amite County.

I, of course, have never been a proponent of sainthood; but if I were, I have two deserving candidates in mind. Mississippi Baptists and Christians everywhere are absent two to

day. I praise him for them.

Ritchard L. Bean  
Pastor, First Baptist Church  
Hamshire, Texas

### Convention needs Clarke

Editor:

Our convention needs Clarke College. I had the privilege of serving Calvary Baptist Church in Newton as pastor for four years. During that time I was on the Clarke campus often. I became closely acquainted with the faculty, staff, and students. Some of them were members of our church. I became convinced during those years that Clarke College meets a need that cannot be met by our larger schools. Clarke has served Mississippi Baptists well. Contrary to his apparent thinking of some others, I do not believe Clarke College has outlived its usefulness. We will make a great mistake if we let this unique institution die.

Glenn Davis, pastor  
FBC, Sumrall

### Stories on songs

Editor:

I'm always thrilled when I find an article written about one of our old, beloved church songs.

I have never found very many of them, so I was happy to find another one in the *Baptist Record* last week. It's very interesting to me to read the story behind the song and find out who wrote it.

I always clip out and save every one I find.

In my small collection I find the story of "The Nail Scarred Hand" and notice that the story of the song was written by the same man, William J. Reynolds, who wrote about "The Solid Rock."

I know that Fanny Crosby wrote several of our best loved hymns, and I have a story about her. Also I have the story about "The Ninety and Nine" and "Shall We Gather at the River."

I would appreciate it if you could print more of these articles. Maybe Mr. Reynolds has more that you could print.

Gladys Martin  
Hamilton

He does, and we do, and we will. Thank you. — Editor

### "In God We Trust"

Editor:

It has come to our attention that Madelyn O'Hair, an atheist, is going to the Supreme Court on an appeal to have "In God We Trust" taken off of our U.S. currency. Cindy Leach and I are both Christians, saved by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and have no regrets of it whatsoever. We urge the Supreme Court justices to go on printing "In God We Trust" on all U.S. currency. We urge Christians all over America to pray about this issue and ask God to deal with it in his own way. "In God We Trust" could save

(Continued on page 9)



# Drummond promises to 'take up spiritual mandate'

By Al Shackleford

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Pledging to take up the spiritual mandate of his predecessors, Lewis A. Drummond was inaugurated as the fourth president of Southeastern Seminary, here Oct. 11.

Drummond was elected president by seminary trustees March 15 and assumed the post April 1.

Evangelist Billy Graham preached the inaugural address to more than 2,300 participants who packed Binkley Chapel, while about 60 students held a "litany of grief and lament for Southeastern" on the chapel steps.

Graham, who described himself as

a long-time friend of Drummond, declared: "What a blessing it would be if a great spiritual awakening could come from Southeastern Seminary and sweep throughout this state and the world."

"This seminary could become a beacon light for evangelism, not only to the Southern Baptist Convention, but also to all the world."

Tying education to evangelism, Graham said, "There must be preparation and evangelism at the heart of all we do."

The evangelist also noted evangelism and social reform go

together. "We take the gospel in one hand and a cup of cold water in the other," he said.

Expressing regret that he did not have a seminary education, Graham said that as he looks at his life, "I regret that I spent too much time traveling and not enough time studying."

But evaluating his friend, Graham said, "In Lewis Drummond, you have a man who can teach evangelism and be an example of an evangelist."

In his inaugural response, Drummond noted the strategic location of Southeastern Seminary and pledged himself to fulfilling the dreams of its

founders. "I can see against the horizon of the future new possibilities and new opportunities for our region and for the ministry of our school," he said.

"Since missions, evangelism and meeting human need are the organizing principles of the church, our seminary as an agency of the church will be proud to graduate students who will seek to fulfill the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The protesting students lined the walkway at the entrance of Binkley Chapel "in silent presence and vigil." They handed out leaflets that stated, "This day is a sad and painful

reminder of all that has happened to Southeastern and the people of Southeastern's community this past year and a half." The leaflet was printed by Southeastern Students for Academic Freedom.

The students wore small yellow ribbons, which have become their symbol of protest against trustee actions in October 1987 — to ensure that only biblical inerrantists can be appointed to the faculty — which resulted in the resignations of Southeastern President W. Randall Lolley and several other faculty and staff members.

Al Shackleford is director of Baptist Press.

## Carey trustees cancel meeting

The scheduled meeting Oct. 25 of trustees of William Carey College was cancelled by Chairman Billy McKay who cited in a letter to trustees the resignation of Trustee Tommy King and the fact the board was left with only 12 trustees. The letter indicated it would be better to do the business of the trustees after election of new trustees at the Mississippi Baptist Convention in November when a full board would be in place.

The meeting would have named the trustee members of a search committee to name a replacement for Carey President Ralph Noonkester. Trustees voted in September not to renew Noonkester's contract as president after his 65th birthday next June. Search committee representatives were to come from the students and faculty at one each, with five to come from the trustees.

## FMB marks \$172,500 for Jamaica

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Lacking adequate disaster funds, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has dipped into a contingency account to help Jamaican Baptists recover from Hurricane Gilbert.

The Foreign Mission Board has released \$172,500 to buy roofing, lumber, nails, and other construction materials, said Thurmon Bryant, associate vice president for mission management. Board officials, with the Brotherhood Commission, are working to get Jamaican government clearance before shipping the materials by ocean freighter.

## MBCB employee's mother dies

Mrs. Leola H. Smith, 94, of 1900 Chadwick Drive, Jackson, who taught school in Walthall County, died of heart failure Oct. 20 at Inglewood Manor Nursing Home.

Graveside services were held Oct. 22 at Bethesda Baptist Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Smith, a Terry native, attended the University of Southern Mississippi. She was a member of Bethesda Church of Terry. She was the widow of William Isaac Smith.

Survivors include her daughter, Mrs. Marylyn Crisler, who is hostess at the Baptist Building; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

## The Most Beautiful Songs Ever Written!

More singing is now available as we introduce six brand new cassette tapes. Our first cassette entitled "On The Jericho Road" is a tremendous blend of both old and new songs. The cassette entitled "Old Time Religion" features three more songs written by Fanny J. Crosby. Each cassette is one hour long, with the exception of the wonderful "Tribute to Fanny J. Crosby" cassette which is 1 1/2 hours long. All singing is led by RAY WALKER, bass with the internationally known "Jordanares" Quartet. All cassettes have the glorious congregational sound that we have loved so long. You will love each and every song. A rare and hard to find collection!

### "ON THE JERICHO ROAD"

- LET THERE BE A RAINBOW
- CHURCH IN THE WILLOW
- IT MAY BE AT MORN
- WONDERFUL GRACE OF JESUS
- THANK GOD FOR CALVARY
- THE KINGDOM IS SPREADING
- NOBODY KNOWS BUT JESUS
- THAT NIGHT IN GETHSEMANE
- WONDERFUL STORY OF LOVE
- SING OH SING HIS PRAISES
- ON THE JERICHO ROAD
- JUST A LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS
- HE IS A FRIEND TO ME
- AN EMPTY MANSION
- TIME ENOUGH YET
- DON'T WAIT TOO LONG
- MEET ME THERE
- I'LL FLY AWAY
- BEAUTIFUL ROBES OF WHITE

### "A TRIBUTE TO FANNY J. CROSBY"

- BLESSED ASSURANCE
- ALL THE WAY MY SAVIOR LEADS ME
- A WONDERFUL SAVIOR
- JESUS IS TENDERLY CALLING
- I AM THINE, OH LORD
- HIDE ME, O MY SAVIOR
- JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS
- TO THE WORK
- RESCUE THE PERISHING
- TO GOD BE THE GLORY
- CLOSE TO THEE
- PASS ME NOT
- HOLD THOU MY HAND
- TAKE THE WORLD, BUT GIVE ME JESUS
- I SHALL KNOW HIM
- REDEEMED
- WILL YOU COME?
- 'TIS THE BLESSED HOUR OF PRAYER
- WILL JESUS FIND US WATCHING?
- PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!
- TELL ME THE STORY OF JESUS
- THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET
- SAFE IN THE ARMS OF JESUS
- THE HALF I CANNOT TELL
- SAVIOR, MORE THAN LIFE TO ME
- WELCOME FOR ME
- SPEED AWAY
- SOMEDAY THE SILVER CORD WILL BREAK

### "WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE"

- TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE
- WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE
- SONG OF WONDERFUL LOVE (WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL)
- EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING
- WE HAVE AN ANCHOR
- AM I NEARER TO HEAVEN TODAY
- WILL THERE BE ANY STARS
- FROM THE CROSS TO THE CROWN
- I'LL LIVE IN GLORY
- I'LL LIVE ON
- UPON THE BANKS OF JORDAN
- STOOD (ALL PARTS SUNG BY RAY WALKER)
- JESUS IS ALL THE WORLD TO ME
- WHERE THE ROSES NEVER FADE
- SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY
- THERE IS A FOUNTAIN
- GLORY FOR ME
- BECAUSE HE LIVES
- HEAVEN
- WHISPERING HOPE

### "IT IS NO SECRET WHAT GOD CAN DO"

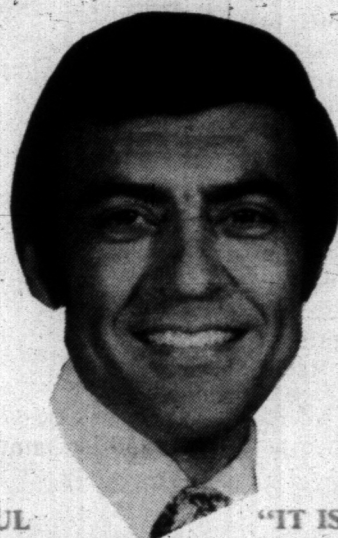
- IT IS NO SECRET WHAT GOD CAN DO
- THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD
- TAKE MY HAND PRECIOUS LORD
- WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN
- I WANT TO KNOW
- BECAUSE HE LIVES
- AMAZING GRACE
- HE SET ME FREE
- BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC
- THIS OLD HOUSE
- PEACE IN THE VALLEY
- HOW GREAT THOU ART
- WHERE COULD I GO?
- JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE
- HE'LL UNDERSTAND AND SAY "WELL DONE"
- PRECIOUS MEMORIES
- WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN

### "OLD TIME RELIGION"

- UNSEARCHABLE RICHES
- NEARER THE CROSS
- ONE BLESSED HOUR
- HE LEADETH ME
- THOU THINKEST LORD OF ME
- WHEN THE SUN OF MY LIFE GOES DOWN
- SWEETER GETS THE JOURNEY
- SEEKING FOR ME
- JESUS KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS
- MANSION OVER THE HILLTOP
- 'TIS THE OLD TIME RELIGION
- IN THE SERVICE OF MY KING
- THAT WILL BE GLORY FOR ME (GABRIEL)
- I LOVE MY SAVIOR TOO
- WITHOUT HIM
- LET THE LOWER LIGHTS BE BURNING
- THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET
- GLORY FOR ME (POLLOCK)
- BEYOND THE SUNSET

### "MY GOD AND I"

- HE
- DO YOU KNOW THE SONG
- THE END OF THE WAY
- THE LAST MILE OF THE WAY
- THANK GOD FOR JESUS, HE'S MINE
- JESUS TOOK MY BURDEN
- MY GOD IS REAL
- HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?
- SING AND BE HAPPY
- I'LL BE SOMEWHERE LISTENING
- I LOVE THE LORD
- MY GOD AND I
- I'D RATHER HAVE JESUS
- PUT YOUR HAND IN THE HAND
- THE HALF I CANNOT TELL
- THE HALF HAS NEVER YET BEEN TOLD
- SING OH SING HIS PRAISES
- OH I WANT TO SEE HIM



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# Just for the Record



A Mississippi father and his two daughters all got degrees within the same year. **Charles Hand** received his M. Div. from Mid-America Seminary, his daughter **Angie** (left), received her Master's in Vocal Performance from Memphis State. His daughter, **Christy** (right), received her B.A. in Public Relations from Memphis State. **Lee**, (far right) received her Ph.D. (put husband through). Charles and Lee are members of Colonial Hills Church, Southaven. Their daughters are members of Bellevue, Memphis. Charles, who graduated from seminary at age 57, is available for service.

**Wynndale Church**, Springridge Road, 13 miles south of Clinton, will observe its 10th anniversary, Oct. 30. The morning service will begin at 11 with **Charles Gentry**, pastor, bringing the message.

**Fred Tarpley**, former Hinds-Madison Association director of missions, will be guest speaker during afternoon service at 1:30 p.m. He was instrumental in assisting the church in the start-up stages as part of Bold Mission Thrust.

Lunch will be served at noon. Special music will be presented by the choir under the direction of **Tony Moore**, minister of music.

**Randolph Church**, Randolph, will hold Debt Retirement and Memorial Sunday Oct. 30. Lunch will be served, with singing afterwards with **Buddy and Kay Bain** as special guests. Music director is **Gerald Waldrop**, and pastor is **Bobby Cobb**.

On Oct. 30 at 2 p.m., **First Church, Lyman**, will dedicate a new education building. **Wade Allen**, director of missions, Pontotoc County and a former pastor, will bring the dedication message. Music will be directed by **Alan Stevens**, music director at Lyman. **Larry Hill** is pastor.

**Main Street Church**, Hattiesburg, will observe its 85th anniversary on Oct. 30. Services include recognition of all former staff and church members at 11 a.m., and an old fashioned service at 7 p.m. Dinner on the grounds will follow the 11 a.m. service. **Russell Bush** is pastor.

All day singing and pot luck dinner will be held Oct. 30 at **Unity Church**, east of Duck Hill in Montgomery County. Beginning with lunch at noon and singing immediately following. Sunday School will be held at 10 a.m. and regular worship service at 11:00 a.m.

The **Chamber Singers** from **Wingate College** in North Carolina will perform at **Alta Woods Church**, Jackson, Nov. 2 at 6:45 p.m. For more information contact **Alta Woods** at 372-8651.

**Lake Washington**, **Glen Allan**: Oct. 30; **J. B. Gray**, guest speaker.

**Pecan Grove (Jones)**: Oct. 30; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; **Jake Murphy**, guest speaker; dinner served in fellowship hall; afternoon service at 1:30, featuring "Magnolia Boys"; interim pastor, **Ronnie Jefcoat**.

**Fellowship (Simpson)**: Oct. 30; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner at noon in fellowship hall; afternoon singing; **R. C. Rice**, pastor; **Vance Dyess**, guest speaker.

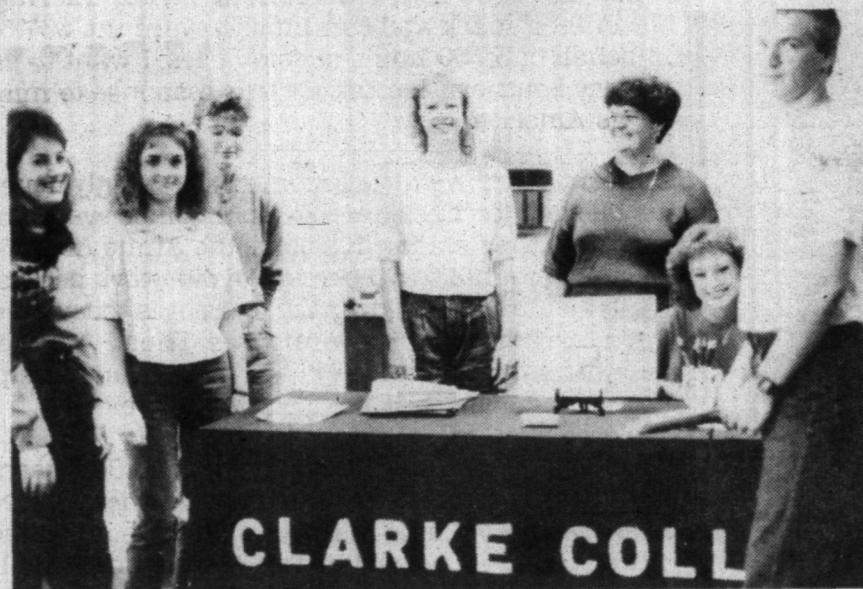
**Silver City Church**, Silver City, will hold an old-fashioned Brush Arbor service, Oct. 30 at 10 a.m. Special recognition of long-time members and the dedication of a newly acquired piece of property will be the order of the service. Dinner on the grounds will follow the activities. **C. C. Carraway**, former pastor, and **Mike Smith**, current pastor, will be the guest speakers.

There will be a concert of southern gospel music, featuring the **Kingsboys**, Oct. 30, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at **Harmony Church**, Crystal Springs. The **Kingsboys** are from Asheville, N.C.

**First, Richland**, has ordained a group of new deacons. They are **Doug Craft**, **Ken May**, **Keith Neely**, and **Ron Wilson**. The church gave them copies of "Deacons: Servant Models of the Church." **Allen Stephens** is pastor.



**First Church, Terry**, recently ordained **Lance Ball**, right, and **Selwyn Ellis**, left, as deacons, and **Harvey Ellis** (see "Staff Changes") as minister. **Harvey Ellis** is now serving as minister of youth/singles at **First Church, Tifton, Ga.**



The **Clarke College** campus hosted visiting students Oct. 3 for Preview Day and Fall Festival.

Students from several Mississippi and Alabama high schools toured the campus, sat in on classes, and talked with instructors and staff in order to gain a closer view of what **Clarke College** has to offer. The day's activities also included an afternoon "fall festival" when booths were set up and contests held. Small charges were made to participate in these activities, the proceeds of which will be given to Baptist missions.

In the picture, **Mrs. Evelyn Williams**, director of admissions; and student assistant, **Dana Archie**, greet and register visiting students.

## Homecomings

**Zion Hill, Wesson**: 105th homecoming; Oct. 30; services at 10:45 a.m.; message by former pastor, **Malcolm Massey** (1956-60); dinner served in fellowship hall; **Frank Smith**, current pastor.

**Good Hope (Leake)**: Oct. 30, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; **Odell Tebo**, pastor, will bring the morning message at 11 a.m.; lunch served in fellowship hall; afternoon program will begin at 1:15 p.m. under the direction of **Mark Gunn**, music director.

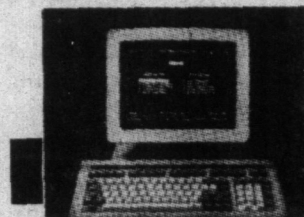
**Eastabuchie (Lebanon)** Oct. 30; 105th anniversary; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; **Kirk Ford, Sr.**, former

pastor for 16 years, retired, nine years and now serving as pastor again, speaker for 11 a.m. services; dinner on the grounds, 12 noon; afternoon singing service, featuring **The Reflections Quartet**, four members, two former members; no evening services.

**Holcomb, Holcomb**: Oct. 30; high attendance day in Sunday School; **J. G. Thomas**, pastor, **Friendship East**, **Charleston**, guest speaker; fellowship lunch followed by **The Gospel Messenger** in concert; **Dale Gravatt**, pastor.

### BIBLE — MOVIES & ANIMATED VIDEOS

**Richard Rich**, former 14 year director at **Walt Disney Productions**, noted for directing such classics as **The Fox & the Hound**, **Pete's Dragon**, **Winnie the Pooh**, and others has just finished some quality animated videos of the New Testament. It is a tremendous breakthrough in wholesome entertainment. Thirty-six animated videos are being produced. Bible movies with famous actors are also available. This \$30-million a year, stable company has begun marketing multi-level this July. See excerpts of animated stories and **Art Linkletter's** endorsement. These videos have received "The Award of Excellence" by the **Film Advisory Board**. Loved by all Christian faiths. Join this crusade, show your acquaintances, clergy, even use as a fund raiser. They also make excellent Christmas gifts. We'll show you how to get started. For more information write **KLS Promotions**, 11863 N 75 E, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401; or call (208) 524-4868.



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SATELLITE NETWORK, INC.

October 1988

CT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5:30	The Joy of Music Diane Bish Christopher Closeup	Sergeant Preston of the Yukon The Cisco Kid	Adventures of the Lone Ranger 26 Men	Great Churches of America (I)	Carriaculand Vegetable Soup	Great Churches of America (II)	The Bible and Life The Good News
6:30	This is The Life Westbrook Hospital	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Davey and Goliath Color Me A Rainbow
7:30	First Love Wedding Estep Changed Lives	30 Watt Street Sunshine Factory	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Sunshine Factory	Word of Life Sunshine Factory	Campus Review Sunshine Factory	Insight	Sunshine Factory Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
8:30	ACTS Methodist Hour	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Lone Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
9:30	Come Alive Nelson Price	One in the Spirit Sergeant Preston of the Yukon	Catch the Spirit Adventures of the Lone Ranger	Jeans World	30 Good Minutes Carriaculand	Christian Lifestyle Magazine Great Churches of America (II)	Cisco Kid Popcorn Theatre
10:30	Catch the Spirit James Flannery FBC Richmond	The Cisco Kid Our World	26 Men What's Happening	What's Happening	Vegetable Soup	What's Happening	
11:30	Great Churches of America (I)	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Hollywood Review	Jimmy Houston Outdoor Magazine
12:30	The Bible Hour	30 Watt Street	U.C. Video-News	Word of Life	Campus Review		Plant Growth
1:30	Sunday Selection	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre		The Super Starline
2:30	Postles	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	Davey and Goliath Color Me A Rainbow
3:30	Love Worth Finding Adrian Rogers	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Psychiatry and You Sunshine Factory	Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
4:30	The Joy of Music Diane Bish One in the Spirit	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Skippy the Bush Kangaroo Lassie	Lone Ranger Cartoon Adventures of the Lone Ranger
5:30	First United Methodist Church Houston This is The Life	Adventures of the Lone Ranger 26 Men	Great Churches of America (I)	Carriaculand Vegetable Soup	Great Churches of America (II)	Sergeant Preston of the Yukon The Cisco Kid	Popcorn Theatre
6:30	Insight ACTS Methodist Hour	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Country Crossroads
7:30	Life Together Neal Jones	Christian Lifestyle Magazine	Word of Life	Campus Review	Created to Be One	James Flannery FBC Richmond	Sing Out America
8:30	The Baptist Hour Evening Worship	The Joy of Music Truth Area Bob Harrod	Catch the Spirit 30 Good Minutes	First Love Wedding Estep First United Methodist Church Houston	Invitation to Life	30 Watt Street	The Bible and Life The Good News
9:30	Richard Jackson	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	COPE	Phase Song
10:30	The Joy of Music Diane Bish Christopher Closeup	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	The Bible Hour	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Backyard Gospel Lighthouse
11:30	This is The Life Sunday Selection	Adventures of the Lone Ranger	Great Churches of America (II)	This is The Life	Carriaculand	Great Churches of America (II)	Cisco Kid Popcorn Theatre
12:30	Prophet	What's Happening	What's Happening	What's Happening	What's Happening	What's Happening	
1:30	Insight	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Life Today	Hollywood Review
2:30	ACTS Methodist Hour	Christian Lifestyle Magazine COPE	Word of Life COPE	Campus Review COPE	Created to Be One COPE	James Flannery FBC Richmond COPE	
3:30	Christopher Closeup Sunday Selection	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	Encore Theatre	
4:30							Sing Out America

\* DENOTES SCHEDULE CHANGE FROM SEPTEMBER

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Greenville	McCaw Cable	Ch 15
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Meridian	Comcast Cable	Ch 31
Hattiesburg	U.A. Cable	Ch 6
Laurel	Laurel Community Cable	Ch 18

For information contact:



Farrell Blankenship  
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P. O. Box 530  
Jackson, MS 39205



# Staff changes

Thursday, October 27, 1988

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9



Ellis

Harvey Ellis, son of Gowan Ellis, pastor at First Church, Terry, has accepted a call to First Church, Tifton, Ga., where he will serve as minister to youth and singles.

First Church, Houlka, has called Rick Burton as pastor. Burton moved from First Church, Groom, Texas.



Burton

A native of Paducah, a small cow town in the panhandle of Texas, Burton is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University, and Southwestern Seminary.

David Jay is the new pastor of Harmony Church, Clarke County.

John Lee Taylor, a native of Mississippi and a former Mississippi pastor, is now pastor of First Church, Gainesville, Ga. He moved to that pastorate from West Jackson, Jackson, Tenn. His pastorate just previous to that was at First Church, Grenada, Miss.

Dennis E. Dunn will assume the pastorate of Eastside Church in Pearl on Oct. 30, moving from Mt. Gilead Church, Meridian. He is a native of Mobile and a graduate of East Texas Baptist University and New Orleans Seminary.

Donald Berry has resigned as pastor at Cedar Bluff Church, Clay County, to become pastor at First Church, Spanish Fort, Ala.

Crosby Church, Crosby, has a new pastor, Waylon Owens. He is a doctoral student at New Orleans Seminary.

Kent Campbell is the new pastor of Calvary Church, Greenwood, effective Oct. 2.



Campbell

He moved to Greenwood from Arlington Church, Bogue Chitto, where he served for four years.

Campbell, 31, was born in Magnolia and attended school in Liberty. He received a degree from Mississippi College and a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

## Adams association sponsors single adult conference

"Committed and Free" is the theme for a single adult conference to be held, Oct. 28 and 29, at Parkway Church, Natchez, sponsored by Adams Baptist Association.

Conference will begin with the evening meal at 6 on Friday and will conclude at 3 p.m. Saturday. There will be a registration fee of \$10 for the entire weekend, including three meals.

Featured speaker for the conference will be Mike Romeo of Gulfport. He is a motivation specialist and president of Life Seminars. Also

included as seminar leaders will be Becky Mayer of Vidalia, La.; Donna Allen Smith, RN; John Ball, attorney; Stratton Bull, attorney; Roger Littleton, minister of youth at Parkway; Carolyn Roby; Mike Ash, Tough Love Coordinator; Jack Stephens; and Martha Puckett.

Registration may be made by making check payable to and mailing to Parkway Baptist Church, 117 Sgt. S. Prentiss Drive, Natchez, MS 39120 marked "Single's Seminar."

## Greenville meet will offer training for singles leaders

First Church, Greenville, will host an area single adult leadership training meeting, according to Sue Frothingham. Single adult ministry leader, J. Clark Hensley, Jackson will be the resource person for the meeting Nov. 4, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The first hour session will be followed by supper (\$1.50) and then training 8-9:30. Single adults, pastors, staff members, and those already leading in some phase of single adult ministry are targets of this conference.

## Key Leader Seminar planned in Jackson

The Cooperative Missions Department, MBCB, will be having a Key Leader Seminar, Oct. 28, at the Baptist Building in Jackson. Registration starts at 9 a.m. The meeting will be from 9:30 to 2:45. Lunch will be provided and there is no registration fee.

John Budlong of Memphis, will be teaching associational missions development. Charles Jones, director of missions, Sunflower Association, will be teaching survey directors. Courtney Selvy of Lambert, will be teaching church missions development promotion directors.

To attend this meeting, please call the Cooperative Missions Department at 968-3800, ext. 3965.

## "In God We Trust"

(Continued from page 6)

some souls. Why not glorify his name in any way that we can. People see money every day. Can you think of what good it would do if someone saw "In God We Trust" on a dollar bill and started reading God's Word and was led to Christ? How wonderful that would be! Again, we urge the Supreme Court to keep "In God We Trust" on our money. In fact, if it is changed at all, it should be printed bigger so more people (especially young people) will notice it.

Robert Leach  
Blue Springs

Many things have substitutes these days, but nobody has yet figured out a substitute for honesty and hard work. — The Pana (Ill.) News-Palladium

## Interfaith witness training set

An Interfaith Associate Training Conference will take place at First Church, Clinton, Oct. 28-29. Friday night session will begin at 4 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. Saturday's meeting will be from 8 until 4, with lunch being served at the church.

Conferences being offered are: Mormonism, Jehovah's Witness, and Islam.

To attend this meeting, please call Hollis Bryant at 968-3800, ext. 3965.

## Eunice Campbell, MBCB retiree, dies at 84

Mrs. Eunice Jenkins Campbell, 84, of 4540 Manhattan Road, Jackson, died of heart failure Oct. 19 at Manhattan Health Care Center. Mrs. Campbell retired Dec. 31, 1966, as business manager of the Baptist Record.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Oct. 21 at Lakewood Memorial Funeral Home, Jackson.

A native of Hickory Valley, Tenn., Mrs. Campbell had also worked as registrar at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Glorieta, New Mexico, and as assistant business manager at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian.

She was a member of the Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, and a past member of the Pilot Club.

Survivors include two daughters, Martha Campbell Weatherall of Clinton and Su Campbell McLain of Memphis; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

## An Open Letter to Southern Baptists on Behalf of 3,760 Home Missionaries



Dear Friends:

To date the 1988 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering has passed the \$29 million mark and continues toward the \$37.5 million goal. On behalf of 3,760 home missionaries, I want to say "thank you" to every Southern Baptist for this response to mission needs across America.

In recent years we have become increasingly dependent upon this offering for mission expansion. Since every dollar goes directly to the field for missions, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering amounts to 53 percent of our work done on the field. A supplemental offering in past years, it is today an essential support for our ongoing ministries. Thus I feel the need to tell you just how important it is and to ask you to help ensure its success and guard against a shortfall, ever.

Home Missions is a partnership with all Southern Baptists. You share in the victories that our missionaries celebrate daily. Recently a young man was led to Christ out of a drug-crazed gang in Houston; a young girl in Tulsa found hope and help from an Alternatives to Abortion Clinic; a Laotian mission was begun in an Atlanta suburb. And in thousands of other places like these, you are participating as full partners as you pray and give and encourage.

Thanks for all you've done in the past and please know we're looking toward a strengthened partnership with you for the greatest days ever in home missions.

Gratefully and prayerfully,

*Larry L. Lewis*

Larry L. Lewis  
President, Home Mission Board

A Southern Baptist agency supported by the Cooperative Program and gifts to the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
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**Home Missions**  
*A Partnership*



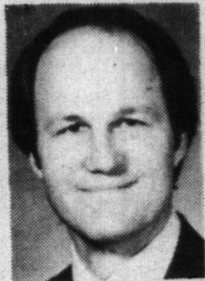
# We've a story to tell to the nations

By Steve Odom

Acts 22:14-15; II Corinthians 5:14-21

The Book of Acts is a fascinating account from the pen of Luke about how the good news of God in Jesus Christ, the gospel, broke through the narrow limitations of racial, religious, and national barriers. Early followers of Christianity saw their religion as an extension of Judaism, a religion open only to those who first embraced the Jewish faith. But before Luke finishes his stirring account of the movement of the gospel, we see Christianity in Rome as an inclusive religion open to all who would profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord regardless of race, religion or nationality. In the first chapter of Acts, Luke shows us a view of the kingdom as the sole possession of Israel. By the end of the book, all hindrances to the spread of the gospel have been overcome and the door into the kingdom is wide enough for the entrance of all people.

Between the beginning and the end of the book is the story of a man named Saul who was



Odom

## LIFE AND WORK

converted to Christianity from Judaism. From so narrow a view that he persecuted Christians for not being Jews, Saul was converted to a broad view of God's love. So radical was Saul's conversion that he changed his name to Paul and became known as the apostle to the Gentiles! In Acts 22, Paul was giving his testimony to an angry mob who had, only moments before, assaulted him with the intent to kill. It is a summary not only of his personal life, but of every Christian's life.

God spoke to Paul through Ananias of Damascus and communicated his intention for the Christian life. Notice the three verbs used in Acts 22:14. First, it was God's intention for Paul "to know" his will. Contrary to much popular opinion, God's will is not some mysterious maze through which we travel wondering if we are going in the right direction. It was God's will for Paul to be where he was, and that was all he needed to know.

Second, it was God's intention for Paul "to see" the Just One. The "Just One" is a title for

Jesus as the incarnate demonstration of the righteousness of God. Paul did see Jesus on the road to Damascus. But more important for us than a physical sighting of Jesus, is the experience of the real presence of Christ. And that experience is God's intention for us.

Third, it was God's intention for Paul "to hear" the voice of Christ. Again, more important for us than an audible voice, is the deep sense that God is indeed speaking to us in tones "audible" only to a sensitive spirit. That is how God intends for us to "hear" him.

Verse 15 then relates Paul's mission as a result of knowing God's will, seeing Christ and hearing his voice. The mission was to tell everyone the same experience he had just related to a hostile crowd. Paul's testimony of personal experience became his irrefutable argument. No skeptic can withstand the evidence of a changed life. It was God's intention for Paul to know his will, to see and hear the Christ and, then, to tell the world what he had seen and heard. That is no less our mission in this world as the people of God. If we do not tell it out, people can only wonder if we have seen or heard anything.

Paul would later write to the church in Corinth about the change that occurs in the life that has been transformed by the recreative presence of God, a transformation available to all people through the sacrificial love of Christ (II Corinthians 5:14-15). Any self can become a new self through accepting God's gift of love in Jesus Christ (5:17).

Accepting such a gift brings us back to God because we have run away from home by choosing self over God. And what a reunion that is! Paul calls it "reconciliation," which means to be brought together again (5:18a). Inherent in the gift of reconciliation is the call to be reconcilers. We all know folks who have run away from home and have not found their way back yet.

Our task, then, as reconciled people is to be ambassadors of reconciliation, allowing God to make his appeal through us (5:20). Through Jesus Christ, the "Just One," we have become the just ones, "the righteousness of God" (5:21). What a fascinating story that makes, a story we must tell out to all people everywhere.

Odom is pastor, University Church, Hattiesburg.

# A better day: restoration of God's people

By Robert Earl Shirley

Isaiah 65:17-25

The promises of God as proclaimed by Isaiah finally reached their climax in our lesson this week when we read, "Behold, I create a new



Shirley

heaven and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." There are many questions that must go unanswered here, but the picture that is painted is one that could have come only from the mind and heart of God. His new creation would be so wonderful and fantastic that no one would desire life as they had known it in the past.

Unfortunately, much of Israel would not be the recipients of those blessings, for a sharp distinction was made between the rebellious and indifferent individuals and the faithful remnant who were described as the servants of God. Jehovah had made himself available to them, but they had not sought him. He had called out to them, but they had responded with in-

difference. However, there were those among the multitudes who had remained faithful to God and were known to him. Consequently, the apostates would reap the punishment that they had earned for themselves while the righteous would be able to sing and rejoice and know the benefits of God's grace.

As the question naturally arises as to the time and setting of this new order, one is prone to think immediately of an eschatological and heavenly situation. The conditions that were presented, however, were entirely this-worldly. Children were still being born, and all people of the day and time would ultimately face death. Men were still working at their trades and the normal affairs of life were continuing as usual. For our meditation today, we are not too concerned with the historical situation. What we need to see and accept is the fact that God always has good plans for those who will trust him.

Salvation has been provided for the lost persons who will surrender their lives completely

to him. The Christian who will believe and accept God at his word can have a life that, although still filled with troubles, can be free from worry and concern and is totally satisfying. God has never forsaken his people.

To the extent that one surrenders his life to God, he can have a little taste of what eternity has to offer. Mankind has never seen the total fulfillment of these promises in this life and, due to the lack of commitment, probably never will. However, God still promises a life even here far more than we are now accepting.

The sadness and misery that Israel had experienced in the past would soon be replaced by joy and gladness. Long life would become the norm rather than the exception. One who lived to be 100 years old would still be considered as no more than a child while one who did not live that long would be considered accursed. The work that they did would bring its rewards to the laborer in his own day. They would live in the houses that they built and they would gather and eat the crops that they planted. They would find joy in their children who would be called the "offspring of the blessed of the Lord."

Again, they were given the assurance that

God would hear their prayers even as they spoke them and would answer even before they called. Finally, God gave the promise of peace. The ferocious wild beasts of the forest would feed together with the domesticated animals of the farm. Such a peace is not a mere armistice, but peace as the natural order of things. Such does not come as a result of a treaty, but only as a change in the hearts and nature of men.

The ideals recorded here do become reality as one enters the stable kind of life that is real Christianity. There is an even present joy that surpasses the momentary "good time" of the fun lover, that only the Christian can have. Living by God's rules automatically adds years to one's life and makes the years more gratifying. Again, children raised in a Christian home and led to Christ by their father or mother are more often than not a constant joy to their parents. The conditions described here are basically those which would have been anticipated in the Garden of Eden before the fall of man. Christ came into the world to reconcile man to himself that we might know the fellowship, the blessings, and the life that God originally intended.

Shirley is pastor emeritus, Parkway, Tupelo.

# God delivers his people, Israel, from Egypt

By Frank H. Thomas, Jr.

Exodus 13:17-15:21

The climax of God's deliverance of his people from Egypt was not in the ten plagues, important as they were. After each plague had done its work upon the land and its people, the pharaoh came back with renewed vigor to try to keep God's purposes from being accomplished. This was true even after the death of the firstborn in Egypt.

The scripture tells us that when the people went out from Egypt, they did not go through the land of Philistines but went around by way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. They went out of the land equipped for battle. Did Moses figure that Pharaoh might change his mind and come after them again? Or was the preparation for battle made so that predators or nomads in the wilderness could be fought off?

There is a lot of interest in the identity and location of what is called in the King James version the Red Sea. In Hebrew the expression used is Yam Suph. The identity of the Yam Suph



Thomas

## BIBLE BOOK

is unclear in the minds of most scholars. Three possibilities are given: The southern edge of Lake Menzaleh, Lake Timsah, or the Gulf of Aqabah. Too much time should not be spent, however, on the actual location of the body of water. The time should be spent on the movement of the people and their experiences along the way.

We are told that the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud and by night in a pillar of fire. The meaning of these two pillars is that God led his people by day and by night. They did not know where they were going, but they were following the Lord who was leading.

The pharaoh's heart was hardened once again. He and his charioteers pursued Israel, came up against them, and camped at the sea of Pihahiroth, in front of Baalzephon. When the people saw the pharaoh and his chariots coming, they cried out to the Lord and accused Moses of bringing them out into the wilderness to die. "Were there no graves in Egypt?" they asked sarcastically. It would have been better to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness. Moses encouraged them to stand

firm and to believe the Lord and see what he would do.

The Lord instructed Moses to lift up his rod and stretch out his hand over the sea to divide it that the people of Israel might go across the sea on dry ground. The Lord sent an east wind, which is understood in biblical literature as being a sign of the presence of God, and this east wind divided the sea. An angel of the Lord stood between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel, keeping the host of Egypt from overtaking and attacking the children of Israel.

Those who have seen Cecil B. deMille's epic movie, "The Ten Commandments," will remember the depiction of this scene. The children of Israel went across the sea on dry ground. When they got over to the other side, the east wind ceased, and the waters came back together again, drowning the Egyptians who tried to follow. There are differences of opinion about how this might have taken place. Nevertheless, there is no doubt but that this deliverance was of the Lord.

There would be no more hardening of the heart by Pharaoh and efforts made to keep the children of Israel in Egypt. This was the climactic battle in the struggle between the God of Israel and the gods of Egypt. In the cross-

ing of the sea, God was clearly the victor and the Egyptians were clearly the losers. Not only did they lose out to the Israelites who escaped, but they lost out in that they lost their lives in the process.

The scripture goes on to say in 14:30-31 that when Israel saw this great work which the Lord did against the Egyptians, they believed the Lord and they feared him. God had truly saved Israel from bondage and from her enemies. One would think that they would fear the Lord forever and remember this deed forever. As it turns out, even with the memories of the exodus in their minds, the people lapsed in their obedience.

Chapter 15, consisting of the songs of Moses (15:1-19) and Miriam (15:20-21) is a chapter of Israel's praise of God for his deliverance. Without this action by God, the people would never have been able to have what they had. God is powerful, and he is faithful. He saved and protected his people then just as he saves and protects his people today. We only begin to understand the greatness of the exodus when we place our trust completely in the Lord, allowing his strength to work through our weakness.

Thomas is pastor, Alta Woods, Jackson.



# THE VILLAGE VIEW



## The Baptist Children's Village

Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director

P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, MS 39213, (601) 922-2242

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## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hope-fully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Oct. 19, 1988**

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(To be continued)





## Powerline for teens

SOUTHERN BAPTIST RADIO-TV COMMISSION / FORT WORTH, TX 76150

### All I'm asking for is freedom

#### QUESTION:

I'm sick of all the pressure and hassles I'm getting from everybody who wants to tell me how to run my life. They keep talking about having so much potential and living up to your responsibilities. But every time I try to do something, I mess up; and I've run away several times to escape from all the hassles. All I'm asking for is freedom, and I've never gotten it.

#### ANSWER:

It's true that you have a responsibility to those who have trusted you and who care about you. But

most of all you have a responsibility to yourself. Like it or not, you have potential to fulfill — and I have a hunch if you don't fulfil your potential, you aren't going to be very happy with yourself.

Look at it this way: here is a violin string lying on the desk. It is totally free — it can be moved any way you want it to. But it is not free to make music — which is the purpose for which it was intended. Only when it is fastened to the violin and tightened down until it is almost at the breaking point can it produce the beautiful sounds of which it is capable.

The point is, if we seek freedom as our only goal, we cut ourselves adrift from everything that gives purpose and meaning to life. But if we find our place and allow ourselves to make our commitment to whatever task or responsibility we have to do, we begin to find true meaning in life, and true freedom as well, for we are free at last to sing.

### Devotional

## The church

By John W. Wade Sr.  
Matthew 16:18 and Hebrews 10:25

Some say that they can be just as good a Christian outside the church as they can be in. Tain't so! That's the same as a child saying I can be as good a child without a "home" as I can with a "home." We know that a home is made up of born or adopted children to parents living in a "house" that becomes a "home" when there is love, care, and togetherness united in an effort to promote joy and happiness as a family. Likewise, the church is composed of blood-bought, born-again believers united together to promote our Father, God, who has given unto us his Son as an atonement (sin offering) for our sin that we might become the born-again or adopted children of God through the leadership of the Holy Spirit God, on behalf of Jesus Christ, God the Son.

The "church" is the "mothering" factor in the born-again experience through the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit, the parent. It is great to have a loving, caring Father God; it is great to have a "birthing redeemer" in the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Christ Jesus, God the Son; but, there is also a dire need to have a "spiritual home" (the church) led and guided by the Holy Spirit God so that the soul can be nurtured and grown-up in the family of God.

Just as sure as a baby cannot survive without a parent-home, neither can a new Christian survive without a "spiritual" home. When the baby is born it needs total care to live; thereby, a new creature in Christ Jesus needs the church. No, we certainly cannot be just as good a Christian outside the church as we can be in the church. Had not Jesus known the imperativeness of the church, he would not have said, "Upon this rock (himself) build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

My dear friend and pastor, Joe T. Odle, wrote, "Every child of God should desire to grow spiritually. This is scriptural, for 2 Peter 3:18 says, 'Grow in grace.' When we are saved, we do not immediately become full-grown Christians, but are 'babies in Christ.' As 'babes' we are commanded to 'grow.' To remain a 'babe' is a shame and a tragedy. Only by growing spiritually can we please God and glorify him in our lives." \*There is only one media that God has established whereby we may grow, and that is the church.

Wade is pastor, Bond Church, Wiggins.

\*Church Member's Handbook by Joe T. Odle.

## First, Inverness will celebrate 75th anniversary

First Church, Inverness, will on Oct. 30 celebrate its 75th anniversary. The widows and children of former pastors are being invited to attend along with all friends and former members of First Church.

Activities will begin with worship at 10 a.m. followed by a covered dish lunch at 11:30. The church will provide the meat and rolls for the meal.

The members of the Anniversary Committee are R. L. Maxwell, Ruth Melton, Jane Toler, Charles Ed Williams, and Danny Lee Prater, pastor.

## Revival dates

Popps Ferry, Biloxi: Oct. 23-28; services, 7 nightly; Donnie Guy, evangelist; Tom Byrd, music; Don Snipes, pastor.

Maybank, Hattiesburg: Oct. 30-Nov. 4; Sunday; homecoming; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; services, 10 a.m.; and 6 p.m.; covered-dish luncheon; Mon-Fri., 7 p.m.; Evangelist Billy J. Crosby, Houston, Tex., preaching; Dallas Rayborn, music; Bill Mitchell, pastor.

## Knoxo will dedicate building

Knoxo Church, Tylertown, will dedicate its new education facility on Oct. 30, with former pastor, A. B. Hatfield, speaking.

Service schedule is Sunday School high attendance, 10 a.m.; morning worship, 11 a.m., followed by dinner at the church and education facility dedication, 1:30 p.m. The church is striving for 60 people in Bible Study on that day. Hatfield will speak at both services.

Hatfield served as pastor of Knoxo Church from 1947 to 1950, and then again from 1955 to 1958. He retired in May 1987 from active pastorate at First Church, Alpharetta, Ga.

Paul Smith is the present pastor.

# SCRAPBOOK

## Autumn portrait

Beneath a blue enameled sky  
scarlet sumac burns in every ridge and hedge  
Fields of gold like wrinkled antique silk  
ripple in the autumn sun  
Asters bow in purple tattered maze  
yellow butterflies pirouette on a morning stage  
Dogwood in second-glory glows  
in burgundy and wine  
Ginkgo trees drop burnished bullions  
Grapes hang heavy on the vine  
Maples in autumnal splendor  
shower leaves indolently to the ground  
This scene of leaf and loam  
is color in our eyes —  
Mists of morning shawl the hills  
as autumn lucently dies  
Reflected in this picture  
is God's artistic Hand —  
and I hear the requiem of  
another season's end.

—Helen F. Boren  
Pontotoc

## Moonbeams

Moonbeams are loving smiles from God  
that glide to earth on a heavenly rod.

Moonbeams touch you softly in the night  
They caress the earth — oh, what a beautiful sight.

Such warm and gentle feelings I  
can't seem to express . . .

Moonbeams are Heavenly Love  
gliding down to us from above.

You can't feel them, you say!  
There must be something blocking your way.

Yes, moonbeams can only shine through . . .  
when there is nothing blocking your view!

— Deborah Hodgins  
Brandon

## Mississippi Baptist activities

Oct. 30 High Attendance Day in Sunday School (SS Emphasis)  
Oct. 31 MasterLife/MasterBuilder; Woodland Hills BC, Jackson; 6 p.m.,  
Nov. 4 31st-Noon, 4th (CT)  
Oct. 4-5 State Church Media Library Conference, EBC Brookhaven; 1  
p.m., 4th-Noon, 5th (SS)



## Jones women will hold day of prayer

Mrs. Ernestine Price Kornegay of Meridian will be featured speaker for the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer, at 2 p.m., Nov. 6, at Wildwood Church, Laurel. She is a member of New Hope Church, is president of the Meridale Girl Scout Council, and serves on the Meridian Planning Commission. The prayer observance is co-sponsored by the Jones County Woman's Missionary Union and the women of the National Baptist Convention in the Laurel area. Pictured are Mildred Flowers; Ettie Godard; Marjorie Williams; Dell Scoper, chairman; and Alma Barnes, co-chairman.

Baptist Record

291 10-27  
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October 27, 1988